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1953

PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT

for the

NEWARK RURAL DISTRICT

BY

G. G. BUCHANAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health

Report of Sanitary Inspector appended

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NEWARK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman: Mr. W. F. Bailey, J.P.

Vice Chairman: Mr. C. M. Fordham.

Lt. Col. H.L.V. Beddington
Mrs. H.E. Bilton
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Dr. G. Sheppard
Col. R.A.G. Stewart
Mr. T.A. Townsend
Mr. W.S. Wells
Mr. A.E. Willows

Medical Officer of Health:

G. G. BUCHANAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector:

W. M. TAYLOR, Cert. R.S.I. and S.I.J.B., R.S.I. Meat I. Cert., Sanitary Science (R.S.I.) Cert., Housing Manager (Institute of Housing) Cert.

Clerical Staff:

Mr. R. E. HILL.

Clerk to the Council:

H. G. PEARSON, 24, Lombard Street, Newark.

Public Health Department,
The Friary,
Appletongate,
Newark.

27th July, 1954.

To the Chairman and Councillors of Newark Rural District Council.

Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the sanitary circumstances, health and vital statistics of the District for the year 1953.

The report is compiled in accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular 1/54. With the co-operation of the County Medical Officer I have included a section dealing with the personal health services carr out in the District but administered by the County Council.

The population, now nearly 12,000, was free from the more serious infectious diseases although outbreaks of measles and whooping cough occurred. It is worthy of special note that the last cases of diphtheri were in the year 1945. This clearly indicates the value of immunisation Similar prophylactic injections against whooping cough are not yet given at clinic sessions although they are available through the general practitioner service. Research is proceeding to find a substance capabl of ensuring equal results to diphtheria immunisation and I hope that before long the County Council will allow whooping cough immunisation to be combined with that against diphtheria.

No deaths from tuberculosis took place during the year - an indication of good results from modern drugs and methods of treatment.

Good progress was made in the building of new houses. Now comes the prospect of getting rid of unsatisfactory dwellings. At the time of writing the Housing Repairs and Rents Bill is nearly an Act and puts a duty on the Council to submit within twelve months proposals for dealing with the houses considered to be unfit for human habitation. This means a survey of the District and therefore the allocation of a considerable amount of the Sanitary Inspector's time to the work of inspection.

I desire to express my appreciation to members of the Council for their support during the year and my thanks to the other officials for their help and co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

G.G. BUCHANAN.

NEWARK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Statistical Summary for 1953.

Population	11,908
Birth rate per 1,000 population	15.5 (15.5)
Death rate per 1,000 population	8.6 (11.4)
Infantile Mortality rate per 1,000 births	16.2 (26.8)
Area of District	41,550 acres
Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1953 ..	3,446
Rateable Value	£48,582
Sum represented by penny rate	£195

Vital Statistics for the Year 1953.

BIRTHS

		Total	Males	Females
Live Births		185	82	103
Legitimate		167	75	92
Illegitimate		18	7	11
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population	15.5			
Still Births		3	-	3
Legitimate		3	-	3
Illegitimate		-	-	-
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	15.9			
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population	0.25			

DEATHS

		Total	Males	Females
		102	44	58
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population	8.6			

MATERNAL MORTALITY

Deaths caused through pregnancy, childbirth, or abortion	1

INFANT MORTALITY
(under 1 year of age)

	Total	Males	Females
Number of deaths ...	3	2	1
Legitimate	2	1	1
Illegitimate	1	1	-

(under 4 weeks of age)

	Total	Males	Females
Number of deaths ...	1	1	-
Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	1	1	-

Infant Mortality Rates:	
All infants per 1,000 births	16.2
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	11.9
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	55.5
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

	Newark Rural District	England and Wales	160 x Smaller Towns
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population	15.5	15.5	15.7
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population	0.25	0.35	0.34
Death Rate per 1,000 population	8.6	11.4	11.3
Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1,000 related live births)	16.2	26.8	24.3

x Towns with estimated resident population at 1951 census of 25,000 to 50,000

Notes on Vital Statistics.

Population

The population estimated at mid-year was 11,908. This is an increase of 660.

Births

The number of births registered was 185. This is again a decrease (3) although the actual population was larger. Female births outnumbered the males by 21.

The birth rate was 15.5 i.e. a decrease from 16.7 and the lowest for many years.

Year	Birth Rate	Year	Birth Rate
1944	23.9	1949	18.7
1945	19.7	1950	16.4
1946	17.8	1951	17.8
1947	20.5	1952	16.7
1948	21.9	1953	15.5

There was a sharp rise in the number of illegitimate births - 18 compared with 6 in 1952.

Year	Illegitimate Births	Year	Illegitimate Births
1944	18	1949	9
1945	17	1950	7
1946	15	1951	9
1947	17	1952	6
1948	17	1953	18

Deaths.

The number of deaths registered was 102. This was a decrease of 27 on the 1952 figure and the death rate was 8.6. This is the lowest rate recorded since 1930 - the earliest record traceable.

The death rates for the past ten years were:-

Year	Death Rate	Year	Death Rate
1944	11.9	1949	12.9
1945	10.2	1950	10.3
1946	10.9	1951	10.7
1947	11.7	1952	11.5
1948	10.8	1953	8.6

The Classified Causes of Death were:-

	Male	Female	Total
Malignant Neoplasms:-			
Stomach	4	2	6
Lungs	3	-	3
Breast	-	1	1
All other sites	3	3	6
Vascular lesions of nervous system	5	13	18
Heart diseases	15	23	38
Other diseases of circulatory system	-	1	1
Influenza	1	1	2
Pneumonia	2	3	5
Bronchitis	-	1	1
Pregnancy, childbirth or abortion	-	1	1
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	1	-	1
Gastritis etc.	1	-	1
Violent causes	3	2	5
All other causes	6	7	13
	44	58	102

Deaths from cancer and other malignant growths numbered 16. The number in 1952 was 18. The ages at which death occurred were

	Male	Female
Under 40 years	-	1
40 to 50 years	-	1
50 to 60 years	2	-
60 to 70 years	2	1
70 to 80 years	3	3
Over 80 years	3	-
TOTALS	10	6

Maternal Mortality

One death occurred as a result of pregnancy or childbirth. The interval between the maternal condition and death exceeded 12 months. The patient was in hospital at the time of death.

Infantile Mortality

Three babies under one year of age died during the year. Two died from broncho pneumonia and one from head injuries, the cause of the injuries being unknown.

Natural Increase of Population.

The Natural Increase in population, i.e. cases of births over deaths, during the last ten years is shown in the following table.

Year	Natural Increase
1944	122
1945	94
1946	71
1947	92
1948	113
1949	62
1950	65
1951	80
1952	59
1953	83

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Treatment Centres and Clinics

Child Welfare Centres

Six Child Welfare Centres are maintained in the District by the County Council:-

Balderton Collingham Farndon South Clifton Kilvington Syerston

Sessions are held as follows:-

Balderton, Bullpit Lane	Thursday weekly	2 to 4.30 p.m.
Collingham, Public Hall	Tuesday fortnightly	2 to 4.30 p.m.
Farndon, Methodist Hall	Wednesday fortnightly	2 to 4.30 p.m.
Kilvington, Womens Institute	Wednesday fortnightly	2 to 4.30 p.m.
South Clifton, Village Hall	Monday fortnightly	2 to 4.30 p.m.
Syerston, R.A.F. Station	Friday fortnightly	2 to 4.30 p.m.

Ante-natal and post-natal cases can be seen at Collingham, Farndon, Kilvington, South Clifton and Syerston during the Medical Officer's Sessions of the Child Welfare Centres.

At Balderton a separate session is held monthly on Friday from 2.0 p.m. to 3.0 p.m.

School Clinics

A School Clinic is conducted by the County Council at Balderton, Bullpit Lane. Sessions are held weekly on Thursday from 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon.

Infectious Diseases

The number of notifications of infectious diseases received was 257. Of these 173 were of measles and 52 of whooping cough.

Measles

The number of cases notified was 173 compared with 11 in the previous year. One case was admitted to hospital when pneumonia developed. The age groups were:-

1 to 2 years	-	9
2 to 3 years	-	12
3 to 4 years	-	26
4 to 5 years	-	23
5 to 10 years	-	96
10 to 15 years	-	3
15 to 25 years	-	2
25 years and over	-	2

Whooping Cough

Fifty two notifications were received. No admission to hospital was recorded. The age groups were:-

Under 1 year	-	1
1 to 2 years	-	3
2 to 3 years	-	5
3 to 4 years	-	9
4 to 5 years	-	5
5 to 10 years	-	27
10 to 15 years	-	2

Scarlet Fever

Nine cases of scarlet fever were notified in 1953 compared with 13 in 1952. The cases were spaced out during the year. One notification was in respect of a man in the Forces. Six cases were admitted to hospital. The age groups were:-

3 to 4 years	-	2
4 to 5 years	-	1
5 to 10 years	-	5
15 to 25 years	-	1

Diphtheria

For the seventh year the District was free from this disease. A fall in the number of primary immunisations was a disturbing feature in the fight to keep the record clean. The increase in the "boosting" or reinforcement injections indicated that those parents who were wise enough to let their babies be immunised were still alive to the safety produced.

The fact that the risk of diphtheria is always present must not be forgotten. Outbreaks continue to occur in England. In 1953 there were 240 notifications and 24 deaths.

Immunisation: The work carried out under the arrangements was:-

	Primary	"Re-inforcement"	Tota
By the health department	113 (145)	158 (119)	271 (2
xBy general practitioners	55 (72)	15 (23)	70
	Grand Total		341 (3

xThe figures indicate the number for whom the doctors have sent in record cards. The figures in brackets are the 1952 figures.

Smallpox

No case of smallpox occurred. Vaccination sessions continued as in previous years and private doctors also carried out vaccinations in their practices.

	1952	1953
Vaccinations under Local Health Authority	63	51
Vaccinations by Private Practitioners	47	60

Tuberculosis

Nine new cases of tuberculosis of the lungs were notified and two of disease of other structures, one being glands of neck and the other of the skin. The corresponding figures for 1952 were 8 and 2.

In the pulmonary cases only one was under the age of 15 years and two were in the 45-55 age group. The glandular disease occurred in a child under 5 years of age and the skin disease in a patient aged 81 years.

Infantile Paralysis (Poliomyelitis).

No notification of this disease was received.

Food Poisoning

One notification of food poisoning was received. Investigation indicated that the only possible source was a meal eaten in a restaurant situated in the area of another authority. The Medical Officer of Health of that Authority had, however, no information about any other cases resulting from meals eaten there and, no bacteriological confirmation being available, it was considered that the symptoms were due to other causes than "poisoning".

Water Supply.

With all parishes now having a piped water supply available, and applications for connection to the new supplies still coming in, the position is satisfactory. Minor extensions will, however, be necessary in order to bring a piped water to outlying farms and small groups of dwellings.

The three sources of supply - Lincoln for the northern parishes, Newark Borough for the central parishes and the Syerston R.A.F. Borehole for the southern parishes - gives a water suitable in quality and quantity.

Further details of the supplies are contained in the Sanitary Inspectors Report.

Housing.

The Housing situation continued to improve although comparison of the waiting list with that of last year indicates that the number of people wanting council houses has increased. This is, no doubt, due to the fact that with a greater possibility of a council tenancy, a number of householders feel that a new council house would be preferable to their present accommodation. There is an increase of 59 in the application from householders.

Housing Waiting List (the figures in brackets are those for 1952)

Families without separate homes.	
Living with parents - In the District	26 (23)
Living in rooms - In the District	51 (64)
Living with parents - Outside District	10 (13)
Living in rooms - Outside District	46 (34)
Single Persons	16 (17)
Families with separate homes	
Householders in the District	142 (115)
Householders outside the District	91 (59)

Housing Progress

New Council Houses occupied	74 (72)
Re-lets of existing houses	9 (10)
Exchange of tenancies	1 (2)
Families in Balderton Hutments	17 (33)

Housing Statistics

Number of houses erected during the year by Local Authority	74 (72)
By Private Enterprise	11 (11)
Conversions	3

It will be noted that the hutments at Balderton are gradually becoming vacant.

Clean Food Campaign.

No legal action was taken under the Clean Food Byelaws.

National Assistance Act, 1948. Section 47.

No action was necessary under this section.

County Council Services.

The following information relating to personal health (County Council services within the Newark Rural District) should be of interest and has kindly been supplied by the County Medical Officer.

Child Welfare Centres.

	First Attendances		Total Attendances		Consultations	
	Infants	Children	Infants	Children	Infants	Children
Balderton	61	21	891	678	170	119
Collingham	34	6	339	436	80	77
Farndon	20	7	227	298	72	56
Kilvington	11	10	66	104	47	65
South Clifton	12	2	114	145	44	63
Syerston	39	21	431	293	105	55
	177	67	2068	1954	518	435

Ante-Natal Clinics.

	Ante-Natal			Post-Natal		
	Primary Cases	Total Attend-ances	Medical Consul-tations	Primary Cases	Total Attend-ances	Medical Consul-tations
Balderton	3	17	17	6	6	6
Collingham	-	-	-	-	-	-
Farndon	1	4	3	3	3	3
Kilvington	3	6	4	2	2	2
South Clifton	3	3	2	-	-	-
Syerston	6	29	25	10	10	10
	16	59	51	21	21	21

Home Nursing.

In general the Home Nursing Service is provided by the Nottinghamshire Nursing Federation and Associated and Affiliated District Nursing Associations, who act on behalf of the County Counci under agency arrangements.

The following are the detailed statistics relating to the work of the Associations:-

	No. of Nurses Employed	No. of visits paid	No. of cas attended
Balderton D.N.A.	1	1940	81
Collingham D.N.A.	1	1542	36
Thorney D.N.A.	1	1531	69
*Elston and Orston D.N.A.	2	1693	144

* Part of the Association's area is in the Bingham Rural District.

Ambulance Facilities.

There are no Ambulance Stations situated in the Newark Rural District and the requirements of the this area are met in the main by the vehicles and personnel of the Newark Ambulance Station.

Home Help Service.

The County Council Service providing for Newark Rural District is administered from a sub-office at the Town Hall, Newark, and all enquiries should be made to the Sub-Organiser, at that address, telephone: Newark 369.

Home Helps are available throughout the area where service is required owing to the presence in the household of any person who is ill, lying-in, an expectant mother, mentally defective, aged, or a child not over compulsory school age.

The charge for the service is 2. 9d. per hour, but where the applicant is unable to afford this amount, the County Council's Scal of Assistance is applied.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1944 - 1953.

Year	Diphtheria including Membranous Croup	Erysipelas	Scarlet Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Other forms of Tuberculosis	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Measles	Pneumonia	Whooping Cough	Acute Poliomyelitis	Acute Polio-encephalitis	Food Poisoning	Dysentery	Total
1944	2	2	19		5		1	2	5		2					38
1945	4	2	13		8	5			32	1	3	1				69
1946	1x	1	5		11				8		4					30
1947		2	11		17	4		1	12	3		1	1			52
1948		6	3		14	4			252	2	105	1				387
1949		3	10		12				101	8	23	3				160
1950		3	10	1	13	1			146	1	43	6				224
1951			18		10	3			222	8	7			1		269
1952		1	13		8	2			11	5	36					76
1953		2	9		9	2			173	7	52			1	2	257

x One Diphtheria carrier.

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality during 1953

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 to 5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 to 10	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
10 to 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 to 20	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 to 25	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 to 35	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 to 45	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 to 55	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 to 65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 & upwards	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	7	2	2	-	-	-	-	-
Totals for previous year	5	3	2	-	-	1	-	-

(1) Non-notified deaths:- Pulmonary Tuberculosis Nil

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis Nil

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

No action has been necessary under these Regulations.

Public Health Act, 1936. Section 172.

No action has been necessary under the above heading.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1953.

1. Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the Year 1953.

(1)	(a) Number inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	32
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	78
(2)	(a) Number of dwelling houses inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidated Regulations	4
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	6
(3)	Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	4
(4)	Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	28

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal notices

Number of dwellinghouses rendered fit as the result of informal action	24

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

(1) Proceedings under Public Health Acts ...	Nil
(2) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936	Nil

Milk.

	Distributors	Dairies
No. on Register at 31st December, 1953	6	-
No. of inspections during the year	3	-
No. of defects or unsatisfactory conditions found	1	-
No. of defects or unsatisfactory conditions remedied	1	-

No. of licences in operation at the end of the year under the Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised) Regulations, 1949.

For the sale of	(a) Pasteurised Milk	4
	(b) Sterilised Milk	3

No. of licences in operation at the end of the year under the Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949

For the sale of	(a) Tuberculin Tested Milk	6
	(b) Accredited Milk	Nil

Water Supply.

The southern parishes scheme commenced in 1952 was completed during the early months of the year under review.

The position at the end of the year is set out below:-

	Piped Supply	
Councils Northern Scheme:	With	Without
Besthorpe	50	4
Broadholme	15	9
North Clifton	44	8
South Clifton,	60	12
Girton	33	16
Harby	82	14
Spalford	19	2
S. Scarle	36	5
Thorney	38	19
Wigsley	11	5
Collingham Scheme:		
Collingham, North	328	14
Collingham, South	196	27
Langford	35	8
Holme	22	1
Barnby Scheme:		
Barnby	64	11
Councils Southern Scheme:		
Cotham	14	10
East Stoke	41	12
Elston	101	10
Syerston	21	14
Thorpe	15	5
Newark Statutory Area:		
Balderton	1330	20
Coddington	173	10
Farndon	391	14
Hawton	15	14
Winthorpe	62	10

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Sampling under the above Act is carried out by the Nottinghamshire County Council. The following information has kindly been supplied by T.L.E. Gregory, Esq., (Chief Inspector)

"Report of the Public Analyst appointed for the County of Nottingham upon the Articles analysed by him under the above Act, and of those examined by the Inspectors, taken in the District of Newark Rural District Council during the year 31st December, 1953.

Article	No. of Samples.	Result
Apricot Jam	1	Genuine
Aspirin Tablets	1	"
Baking Powder	1	"
Butter	2	"
Butter Drops	1	"
Buttermints	1	Deficient in butter fat. Caution. Stocks withdrawn.
Cheese Spread	1	Genuine
Cornflour	1	"
Cream	2	"
Currants	1	"
Custard Powder	1	"
Fish Cakes	1	"
Friars Balsam	1	"
Ice Cream	2	"
Iced Lollipops	1	"
Indian Brandee	1	"
Lard	1	"
Lemon Curd	1	"
Lung Tonic	1	"
Marmalade	2	"
Milk	57	56 Genuine 1 Very slightly deficient in milk solids due to natural causes.
Minced Beef Loaf	1	Genuine
Milk, Condensed	1	"
Piccalilli	1	"
Potted Meat Paste	2	"
Rice	1	"
Rose Hip Syrup	1	"
Rum	1	"
Sausage, Beef	1	"
Sausage, Pork	2	"
Sponge Mixture	1	"
Sugar	1	"
Sweet Cigarettes	1	"
Sweets	1	"
Table Jelly	1	"
Tea	1	"
Tomato Ketchup	1	"
Tongue Paste	1	"
Whisky	1	"
	101	99 Genuine 2 Sub-standard

Meat and Other Foods Inspection.

Food preparation premises are inspected regularly.

Ice Cream.

Ice cream is sold, mostly wrapped, from 31 registered premises.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

The Council provide a regular collection by direct labour once a fortnight in all parishes.

The pail closet collection continued during the year unchanged, that is once a week in North and South Collingham and Balderton by direct labour and by contract in Farndon.

Summary of Inspections.

General Sanitation.	
Drainage	11
Refuse Disposal and Collection	30
Rats and Mice	6
Sewage works	31
Schools	4
Water Supply	176
Inspection in relation to foods.	
Bakehouses	6
Food Premises	12
Meat Premises	6
Infectious Disease Investigations	7

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948.

PART 1 OF THE ACT.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number of: No. on Reg. (3)	Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers Prosecuted (6)
(1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
(11) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	23	8	2	Nil
(111) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total		26	8	2	Nil

2. Cases in which Defects were found.
(Defects discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions are reckoned as two, three or more "Cases").

Particulars (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found: Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred: To H.M. Inspec. (5)	By H.M. Inspec. (6)
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	12	2	2	Nil	Nil
Total	60	2	2	Nil	Nil

PART VIII OF THE ACT.

OUTWORK.

(Section 110)

Nature of Work (1)	M/c line No. (2)	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c) (3)
Wearing apparel - Making, etc.	13	1
Total		1

W. M. TAYLOR.

Sanitary Inspector.